

WEATHER FORECAST FOR TODAY.
Strong trades, probably some rain.

SUGAR—96° Centrifugal, 3.6275 in
New York, Feb. 5.

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HONOLULU, HAWAII TERRITORY, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1903.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

OFFICES WILL BE COMBINED

Republicans Plan For Fewer Places.

County Bill Caucus Is Working Fast and Harmoniously.

Measure Has Been Half Read Through and May Be Fin- ished Next Week.

With the preliminary consideration of the county bill half finished, the Republican caucus of members of the legislature and executive committeemen of the party has settled down to harmonious work, and great progress is being made. The caucus spent nearly three hours in reading the bill last evening, quit work when the sections bearing upon the income tax were under consideration, adjourning to meet at 7:30 o'clock this evening. The leaders believe that with a meeting on Monday evening the first reading will be completed, and that work on amendments will follow speedily. The bill may be completed during coming week.

Of the many features of the bill which has been passed upon there seems to be practical unanimity on the point that there has been provided too many officers. When the members of the caucus had taken up consideration of taxation and population, they seemed to agree that there were combinations which could be made with profit and without expense to the public service.

Of these offices that of coroner seems doomed. It is the opinion of one who has followed the discussions that the duties of that official will be combined with that of the sheriff or of the district magistrate. In the matter of the treasurer and tax collector the sentiment is as well that one official can perform the duties of both places, and as to the recorder his duties may be combined with those of the county clerk.

There was considerable discussion last evening over the general subject of taxation, but there was no decision reached in the matter and there will be later and further consideration given to it before the subject is closed. Considerable opposition has developed to the income tax, and if it is decided to continue this tax there is a strong possibility that it will be almost entirely changed in its form. There is a growing belief that the limit of exemption should be only \$500 instead of \$1,000, and that if this change is made there should be also a reduction of the rate from 2 per cent to 1 per cent. The opponents of the tax are confident, however, that they will be able to defeat it.

This evening is the regular time for holding the monthly meeting of the Republican Central Committee, and the two meetings may be merged.

HOME RULE BILL.

Home Rulers will follow the methods of the Republicans and begin at once caucuses as to plans of action which the minority will follow in the legislature when it meets. There are few members now in the city, but it is expected that there will be a number who will arrive in the ships of today and tomorrow. Antone Fernandez, of Hamakua, is one of the Home Rulers already on the ground, and yesterday he said that all of the out of town members with whom he had had either conversation or correspondence were in favor of making the county bill the first order and pushing it through.

As to Hamakua's wants, he said he would press the need of a road from Kukuihaele to Waipio, a continuation of the present road along the coast from Hilo, and further a road from Waipio to Kohala, so as to thoroughly open the

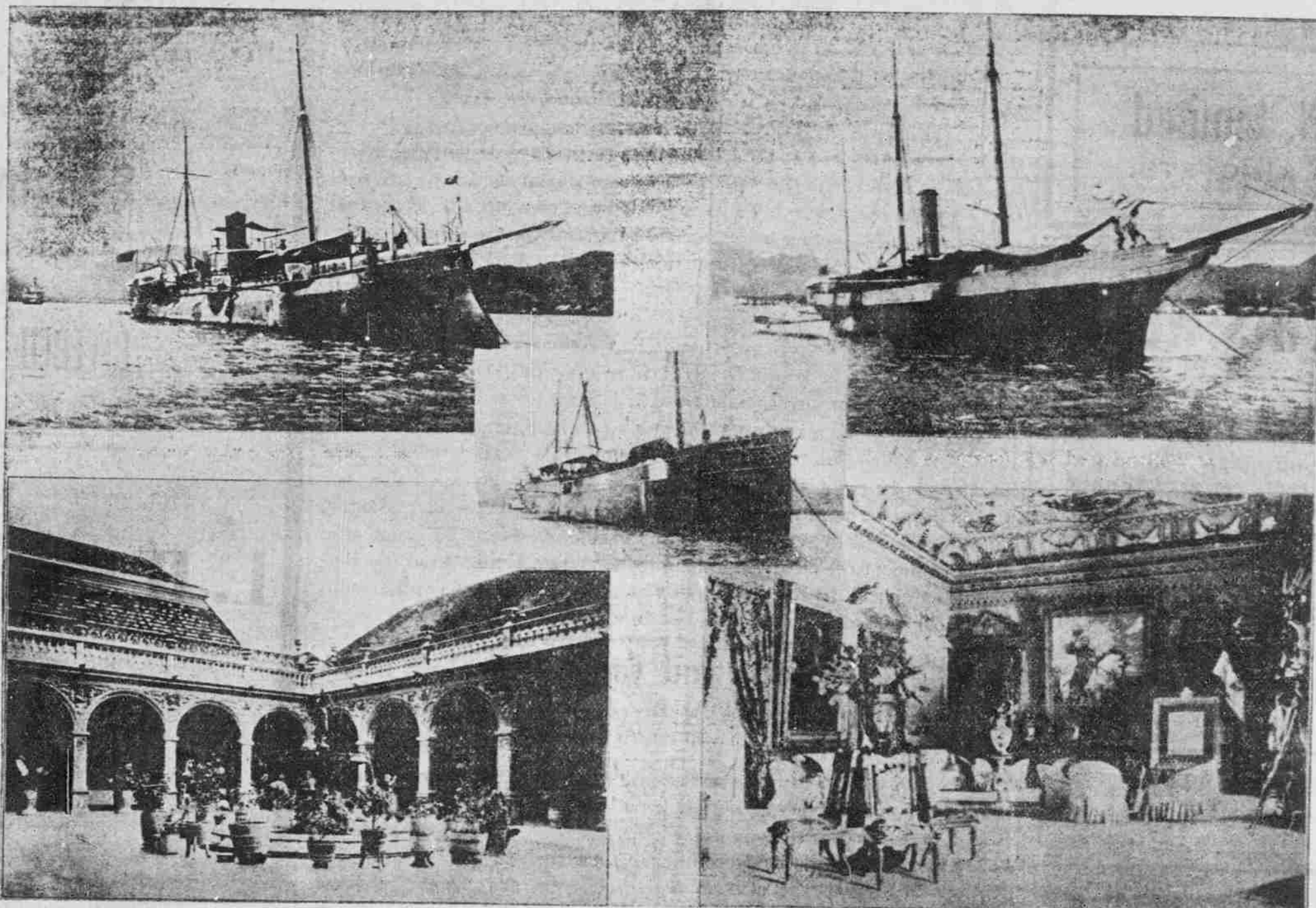
(Continued on page 7.)

VENEZUELAN QUESTION GOES TO HAGUE

THE VENEZUELAN DIFFICULTY: THE FLEET AND PRESIDENT CASTRO'S RESIDENCE.

THE "BOLIVAR," CAPTURED BY THE ALLIES.

THE "GENERAL CRESPO," SUNK BY THE ALLIES.



CASTRO'S PALACE OF MIRAFLORES AT CARACAS: THE PATIO.

The Troop-Ship "Zamora," Captured by the Allies.

CASTRO'S PALACE OF MIRAFLORES AT CARACAS: AN INTERIOR.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS CABLEGRAMS)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 6.—The Venezuela case has been referred to the tribunal of arbitration at The Hague. The necessary protocols will be arranged tomorrow and the blockade of Venezuelan ports will be raised as soon as they are signed.

The Hague Arbitration Tribunal was formed as a result of the Czar's Peace Parliament, held in 1900. The arbitrators who will form the tribunal for the determination of the Venezuelan disputes will be chosen by the countries interested in the trouble through the agency of the permanent council, which is composed of the diplomatic body at The Hague. The tribunal of arbitration assembles on the date fixed on by the parties at interest and the deliberations will take place in private and every decision will be by the majority. The tribunal has its ordinary seat at The Hague and except in cases of necessity the place of

session can be altered only by consent of the litigants. Venezuela is not one of the signatory powers but the convention provided that the jurisdiction of the tribunal may, within conditions laid down in the regulations, be extended to disputes between non-signatory powers or between signatory and non-signatory powers if the parties are agreed on recourse to the tribunal. The Hague tribunal is the highest in the world and Venezuela must fulfill any award made against that country by the court. Judges of the dispute will be chosen from among those members of the permanent court of arbitration which contains seventy representatives. The American permanent members of The Hague court are Melville W. Fuller, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court; John W. Griggs, ex-Attorney-General; George Gray, Judge of the Circuit Court, and Oscar M. Strauss, formerly U. S. Minister at Constantinople.

Extending the Wireless.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 6.—This city and the Central and South American coasts are to be connected by Marconi telegraph.

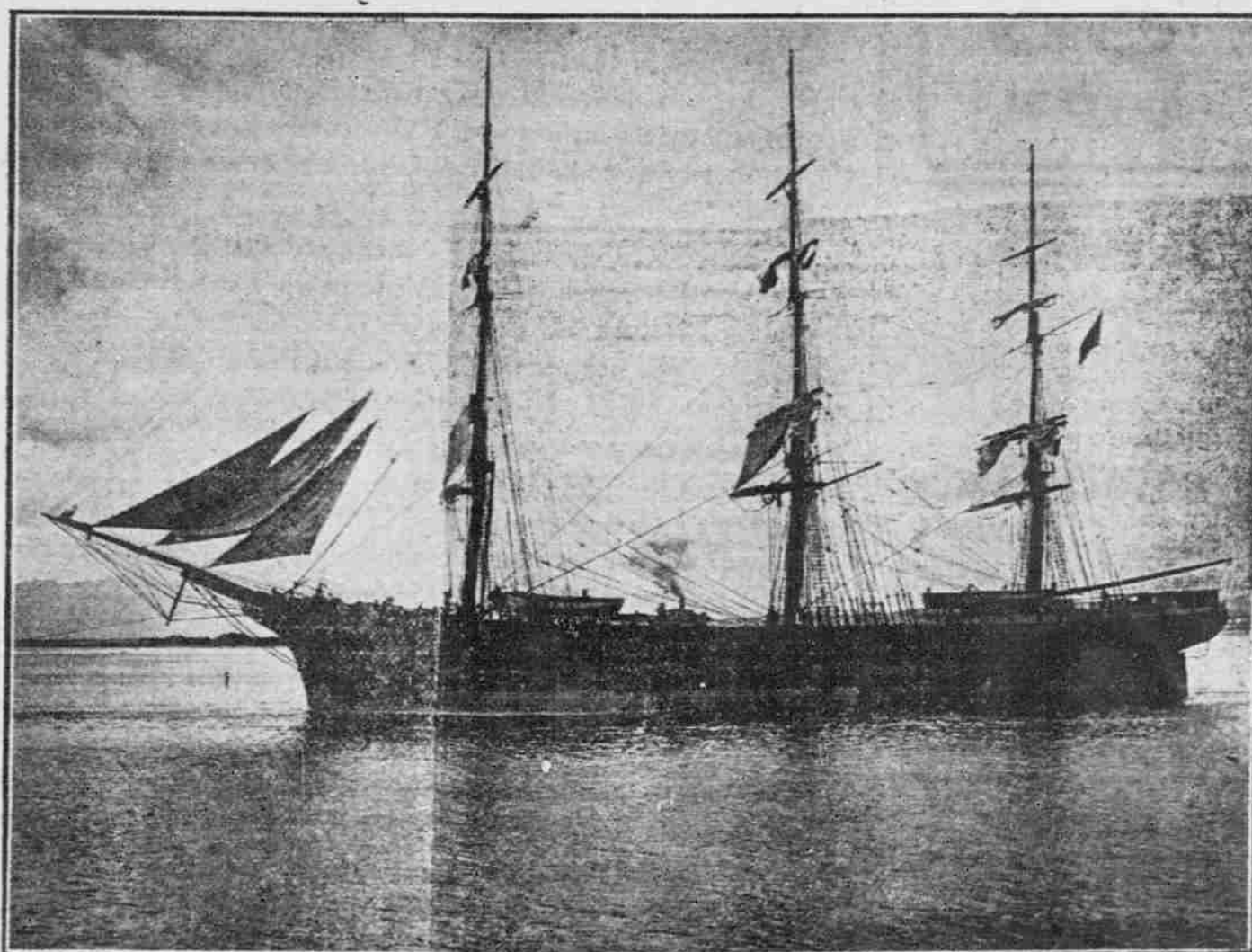
THE SHIP FLORENCE GIVEN UP

The Reinsurance Now Reaches Eighty Per Cent.

Vessel Is Out Sixty-Eight Days From Tacoma for Must Be in Trouble.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 6.—All hope for the American ship Florence now out sixty-eight days from Tacoma for Honolulu has been given up here. Rates for reinsurance have advanced rapidly during the last week and today the vessel was put on the boards at eighty per cent. The Florence was not the vessel in distress that the Alameda reported sighting.

While shipping men in Honolulu have generally given the Florence up as lost there are a few who refuse to believe that the vessel will not arrive. They say that the weather reported during the last two months from the northern Pacific justifies them in the belief that the vessel has been blown far out of her course and may yet appear. But nearly every one believes that the vessel has met with disaster. In case she was dismantled out of the regular line of steamship travel it might be a very long time before any steamer would run across her. The Florence was loaded with a cargo of coal. She was commanded by Captain Spicer, a man well known in Honolulu, and carried a crew of about twenty men. Had the vessel been damaged to such an extent that the crew had to leave her there would have been very little hope for them in the recent bad weather, as all vessels arriving from Puget Sound way report seas in which it would be impossible for small boats to live. The barkentine Klikitat reported on arrival here that off the mouth of the Columbia River lights were seen which might have been ship's lamps being placed in boats and were possibly those of the Florence. These lights were only seen once and the Klikitat tacked and wore around to the vicinity of the place, but found no traces of wreckage.



THE ILL FATED FLORENCE.

DOLE AND COOPER DIFFER

Secretary's Story of Wright's Escape.

Says Dole's Statement of Facts Is Not Correct.

Claims That Attorney General Was Kept Fully Informed of Facts in Case.

Hon. H. E. Cooper, Secretary of the Territory, says that E. P. Dole, late Attorney-General, is incorrect in his statement of the facts leading up to the escape of Treasurer W. H. Wright. The report made by the late Attorney-General to Governor Dole is characterized by the Secretary of the Territory to be wrong in many particulars.

"I have read the statement made by Mr. Dole in regard to Treasurer Wright's escape," said Mr. Cooper yesterday in a dictated interview, "and as it appears to be one of the purposes of the report to lodge the responsibility for Mr. Wright's escape upon my shoulders, and as it contains many statements which are incorrect, I feel that in justice to myself I should make a statement of the facts in the case."

"Early on the morning of the 23rd day of September, I received the first intimation that matters were wrong in the Treasury Department. I went over to the Hawaiian Hotel where I had been subpoenaed to appear before the Senatorial Commission, and there met Mr. Dole, the Attorney-General, before he had left the hotel for his office, and told him of my information in connection with the Treasury."

"I did not go to the luncheon in company with Mr. Dole, as Mr. Wright, together with Mr. J. A. Magoon and Mr. W. O. Smith called at my office about noon on the 23rd day of September, and I was detained there with them until some time after one o'clock. I walked from the Capitol Building to the Hotel in company with Mr. W. O. Smith. When I arrived at the luncheon the Attorney-General was already in his seat at the table. Immediately upon the conclusion of lunch I informed the Attorney-General of Mr. Wright's confession. I did not tell Mr. Dole that Mr. Wright had made an appointment with me for the next morning at nine o'clock or that I had given him to understand that no criminal proceedings would be brought against him in the meantime. The appointment with Treasurer Wright for the meeting of the morning of the 24th day of September was made on the occasion of Mr. Wright's second call at my office, which was somewhere between 3:30 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon of the 23rd."

"I never at any time made a statement to the Attorney-General that any promise had been made Mr. Wright that no criminal proceedings would be brought against him. The reply the Attorney-General made when I informed him of the defection was that 'that was bad but he had troubles of his own worse than that.'"

"I consider that I had done my duty when I kept the Attorney-General informed of the facts in the case immediately upon their coming to my knowledge and this was done in every instance."

A number of officers and members of the United Chinese Society will banquet this afternoon at the Sun Yun Wo hotel in Smith street. This will be their formal New Year's celebration.